



### Contact us:

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**Admin Officers:**

**Joy Padilla and Marianne Kelly**

**Parish Office Hours**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:  
9am – 1pm

St Mary's Parish Centre  
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Ph: (03) 5482 1127

Email: [admin@stmarysechuca.org.au](mailto:admin@stmarysechuca.org.au)  
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**Visitation Ministry Coordinator:**

**Kath Quinn**

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M: 0439 101 282

### Church Opening Hours:

Monday: Closed  
Tuesday – Sunday:  
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (Standard Time)  
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (Daylight Saving Time)

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation. We pay our respects to elders past and present and acknowledge the lessons the Yorta-Yorta people teach us about care, respect and justice for mother earth.

If you wish to assist in "further supporting the Parish" we offer different ways of giving... direct debit, credit card or planned giving envelopes. Please ring the office for more details.

**PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:**

St Mary's Echuca: BSB Number: 083-543  
Account Number: 45-782-9206



31<sup>st</sup> of October & 1<sup>st</sup> November 2026

# Parish Newsletter

All Saints Day, Year A

## Looking at the Readings

The Lectionary for this feast has only one set of readings for the three year cycle. The first reading with all its drama provides a comforting image of heaven, and the people there. First their number is incalculable – too many beyond counting. Secondly they are washed clean by persecution and/or baptism and thirdly they are happy and rejoicing and praising and thanking God. St John reminds us we are saved and loved by God, we are called children of God and are saints of God.

The well-known Sermon on the Mount begins with the Beatitudes. We are blessed and happy by what God does for us and what we are by a way of life living out the Gospel values. "The Beatitudes are an urgent exhortation to possess those necessary qualities for sharing on the salvation offered by the gospel" J Dupont, the Message of the Beatitudes.

### The Solemnity of All Saints

This Feast was first celebrated in the fifth century in Antioch and Edessa and reached Rome and assigned to the First of November by Pope Gregory the Great (590-604). It is celebrated on a Sunday about every seven years so this year 2026, previous times in 2015 and 2020 and next time 2037 due to leap year disruptions.



## PARISH MASS TIMES

**Weekend Masses: 31<sup>st</sup> October & 1<sup>st</sup> November 2026**

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass  
Sunday: 9:30am Mass

**Weekday Masses: 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November 2026**

Monday: 12.00pm All Souls Mass  
Wednesday: No Mass

## CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS SAFEGUARDING

Through our policies and practices, we protect the right of children and vulnerable adults to feel safe and to be safe. We promote the well-being and inclusion of all children. **For more information, contact our**

**Safeguarding Officer: Mel Slattery**

M: 0417 822 589

E: [melslattery.home@gmail.com](mailto:melslattery.home@gmail.com)

**Reconciliation:**  
**Baptism:**  
**Weddings:**

Approach Fr Novie before Mass  
Second weekend of the Month  
By Appointment with the Parish Priest

# Parish News

SAVE THE DATE

## MULTICULTURAL MASS WEEKEND CELEBRATING CHRIST THE KING

Many cultures. One faith. One community.

21-22 NOVEMBER 2026  
ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

St Mary's Parish  
ECHUCA  
Growing in faith together

FAITH | BELONGING | COMMUNITY

*"Come and See"*  
John 1:39

## INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

**RCIA Information Session**

Have you been wondering about the Catholic faith?  
Whether you're exploring Christianity, seeking the Sacraments,  
returning to faith, or simply curious to learn more, you are warmly  
invited to join us for an information session.

Thursday  
19th November

5:30 PM

Parish  
Centre

St Mary's Parish,  
EchUCA

**Come and:**

- ✓ Learn about the Catholic faith
- ✓ Ask questions in a welcoming environment
- ✓ Discover the RCIA journey
- ✓ Meet others exploring faith

*Everyone Welcome*

For more information or to RSVP,  
please contact the Parish Office on **5482 1127**

*A journey of faith.  
A brighter tomorrow.*

### November – Month of the Holy Souls

During November, the Yellow Month of the Holy Souls envelopes will be available in the pews and at the entrances of the church.

If you would like your deceased family members and friends to be remembered in the Masses celebrated by Fr Novie throughout November, please complete an envelope and return it to the Parish Office or place it in the collection bags during the Offertory.

All names submitted will be remembered in our prayers throughout the month of November.

May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



PARADE OF  
**SAINTS**

DRESS AS YOUR FAVOURITE SAINT

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN

1 NOVEMBER 2026 | SUNDAY MASS

### Supporting Legacy

Mary's Makers will be selling poppies from this weekend for \$3 each, with all proceeds going to Legacy in support of veterans' families. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

*Remembrance and  
Thanksgiving Liturgy*

Friday  
6 November 2026  
at 6:00 PM

All are warmly invited to  
join us for a cuppa and  
fellowship following the  
liturgy.

A special liturgy of prayer and  
remembrance for those who  
have died, especially our loved  
ones and members of our parish  
community. It is an opportunity  
to gather in faith, give thanks for  
their lives, entrust them to God's  
loving mercy, and find comfort  
and hope in the promise of  
eternal life.

St Mary's Parish  
ECHUCA  
Growing in faith together

### To the Senior Leadership, Parish Council and Parish Finance Members

You are warmly invited to the Western Deanery Forum on **(Change of Date) 12 December**, from 10 am to 3 pm, at Fr Ted Harte Parish Centre, White Hills. With Bishop René participating, the Forum will focus on discussing the draft Diocesan Provisional Statutes for Parish Pastoral Councils and Parish Finance Councils, addressing the need for common guidelines across the Diocese. Priests, council members, parish staff and ministry coordinators are encouraged to attend and use the included QR code for your Deanery to register.



## Parish Calendar

\*Hall unavailable for the State Election (5 weeks)

**1<sup>st</sup> November:** All Saints Day \* Fr Des's 80th Birthday Please bring a plate to share.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> November:** 12.00pm Mass All Souls Day  
**4<sup>th</sup> November:** No Mass \*5.30pm Sacramental Team Meeting  
**6<sup>th</sup> November:** 9.00am Mary's Makers \*11.30am Adoration 12.00pm Communion Service  
 6.00pm Memorial Liturgy  
**10<sup>th</sup> November:** 5.30pm P.P.C. Meeting  
**11<sup>th</sup> November:** No Mass  
**15<sup>th</sup> November:** 11.00am Mass St Vincent de Paul

### Regular Schedule

**Sophia Sisters:** Every Tuesday 1:30pm (Parish Centre)  
**Men's Ministry:** Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)  
**Ladies Drinks:** 4th Wednesday 5:30pm (Parish Centre)

**G'Day Weekend:** Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Weekend of the Month  
**Children's Liturgy:** Every G'Day Weekend



### Prayer Requests

#### For Those Who Are Unwell

Bruno Barbera, Dan Carey, Pat Davey, Howard Clark Jnr, Caroline Farley, Fred Molluso, Jim Byrne, David Baker, Meredith Ryan (Maddick), Antonia Molluso, Carmel Murphy, Dominga Cabantac, John & Elaine Farley, Paul Wallace, Elizabeth Kyne Weekly), Ruth Phillips, Domenico Scanbellone

#### Death Anniversaries

Geraldine Shannon, Pat, Helen and Marcus Timms, Anne Murray, Don Oberin, Nina Petrini.

#### Recent Deaths

George Cairns, Patricia Bourke.

#### Grandparents Day



Our theme for Grandparents Day this year was 'a deck of cards'.

While every card in a deck is unique, each one has an important place and purpose. In much the same way, the grandparents and special people in the lives of our learners each bring their own gifts, wisdom, experiences and stories. Some are encouragers, some are teachers, some are adventurers, and some are quiet supporters, but together they help shape the lives of our learners. Just as a deck is strongest when all the cards are together, our learners are blessed when surrounded by a community of family and friends who love, guide and champion them. Monday was an opportunity to celebrate and honour the special role each of these important people play in the lives of our young people. It was wonderful to hear the wisdom of Peter Mould (Charlie and Immy Henson's Grandfather) as he used an Acrostic poem to highlight what each letter of 'Grandparent' means to others. Such powerful adjectives and visuals were used to portray this message. Thank you Peter/Poppy Pete.

### ROSTER THIS WEEK 31<sup>st</sup> October & 1<sup>st</sup> November

| Mass                    | LECTORS                                          |          | Eucharistic Ministers          | Church Set-up      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 6:00pm                  | Kristy Serpell<br>Carol Purdon, Christine Sebire |          | Bob Cooper<br>Prue Crowe-Galea | Rose Quinn         |
| 9:30am                  | Gracie Drakatos<br>Children's Liturgy            |          | Matt Butler<br>Kay Westblade   | Noela Boyer        |
| Prayers of the Faithful | Rose Quinn                                       | Counters | Pat Whyte & Adrian Costello    |                    |
| St. Anne's              | Yvonne Costello, Bev Stapleton, Carol Worsnop    |          | Hospital Visit                 | John & Julie Moyle |

### ROSTER NEXT WEEK 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> November

| Mass                    | LECTORS                                          |          | Eucharistic Ministers            | Church Set-up |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 6:00pm                  | Tania Dixon<br>Dominic Karunanayake, Mary Atkins |          | Carmel Mackenzie<br>Rose Quinn   | Mary Atkins   |
| 9:30am                  | Margaret Hart<br>Judie O'Farrell, Max Marchetti  |          | Bernie Oliver<br>Bebher Mitchell | Rachel McAsey |
| Prayers of the Faithful | Noela Boyer                                      | Counters | Eileen Pineo, Lois Williams      |               |
| St. Anne's              | Cindy & Jonas Narvasa                            |          | Hospital Visit                   | Noela Boyer   |

### Monthly (November)

|           |                        |              |             |
|-----------|------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Gardening | Doug Black & Ray Lewis | Baptism Prep | Sarah Byrne |
|-----------|------------------------|--------------|-------------|

**1st Reading****Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14****A reading from the book of the Apocalypse**

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

**This is the word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm*****Ps 23:1-6***

**R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm. **R.**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things. **R.**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord?  
and reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

**Readings for Next Week**

**Next Week: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> November 2026**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Wisdom 6:12-16

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 62:2-8

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

**Gospel:** Matthew 25:1-13

**2nd Reading****1 John 3:1-3****A reading from the first letter of St John**

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

**This is the word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation*****Matthew 11:28***

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Come to me all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel*****Matthew 5:1-12*****A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**